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FROM: JAY S. CINAMON, ESQ.

TO: *Exr. Stoica*FAX NO.: *571-273-9941*COMPANY: *USPTO*

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COMMENTS:

RE:

*Leone et al**SN: 10/509,665**Title: Bag 3 Nucleotide ...**Dear Exr. Stoica:**Enclosed are the amended claims  
which you suggested on December 23, 2008**Regards,  
Jay Cinamon*

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1.-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended) A monoclonal antibody able to recognize at least one BAG3 protein fragment consisting of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:15, 16, 17 and 18, the antibody ~~The antibody according to claim 30 which is being~~ secreted by the hybridomas mother clone AC-1, deposit n° PD02009 deposited on December 17, 2002 at the Centro Biotecnologie Avanzate ~~de of~~ Genova.

37. (Currently amended) A hybridoma mother clone AC-1, deposit n° PD02009 deposited on December 17, 2002 at the Centro Biotecnologie Avanzate ~~de of~~ Genova for production of the antibody according to claim ~~30~~36.

38. (Currently amended) A peptide construct for immunologically generating the antibody according to claim ~~30~~36, said peptide construct being a Multiple Antigen Peptide (MAP) construct selected from the group of MAP constructs consisting of:

MAP-BAG3-1: ~~hh2NH<sub>2</sub>~~-DRDPLPPGWEIKIDPQ-MAP, comprising SEQ ID NO:15;

MAP-BAG3-2: ~~hh2NH<sub>2</sub>~~-SSPKSVATEERAAPS-MAP, comprising SEQ ID NO:16;

MAP-BAG3-3: ~~hh2NH<sub>2</sub>~~-DKGKKNAGNAEDPHT-MAP, comprising SEQ ID NO:17; and

MAP-BAG-4: ~~hh2NH<sub>2</sub>~~-NPSSMTDTPGNPAAP-MAP, comprising SEQ ID NO:18.

39.-52. (Cancelled)

53. (Currently amended) A diagnostic reagent for diagnosing a disease characterized by modulation of BAG3 protein expression, wherein said agent comprises

at least one antibody according to claim ~~3036~~, and wherein said at least one antibody preferably comprises monoclonal antibody secreted by the hybridomas mother clone AC-1, deposit n° PD02009 deposited on 17 December 2002 at the Centro Biotecnologie Avanzate di Genova.

54.-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently amended) A kit for identification and diagnosis of disease characterized by regulation of BAG3 protein expression, said kit comprising one or more containers enclosing at least one monoclonal antibody according to claim ~~3036~~.

63. (Currently amended) The diagnostic reagent according to claim 53 wherein said disease is characterized by an increase in BAG3 protein expression and a decrease in apoptosis.

64. (Currently amended) The diagnostic reagent according to claim 53 wherein said disease is B chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

65.-72. (Cancelled)